Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

FACULTY OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
FACULTY COUNCIL
January 29, 2015
440, CFAC
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Chair: Denise Roy

Attendees: Robert Andruchow

Ray Baril

Craig Brenan

Carole Charette

Rose Clancy

Melissa Guerrier

Allan Gilliland

Rose Ginther

Jim Head

Michelle Lavoie

Michael MacDonald

Nichole Magneson

Darci Mallon

Lucille Mazo

Bill Richards

Chandelle Rimmer

Chris Ryan

Rey Rosales

Leslie Sharpe

Tom Van Seters

Ex-officio members: Debbie McGugan

Mike Sekulic

Dianne Westwood

Guests: Ken Ristau

Ron Rooth

Sherrell Steele

Kim Warkentine

Regrets: Brian Gorman

Jim Guedo

Marcel Hamel

Paul Johnston

Iain Macpherson

John Mahon

Kathy Neiman

Dianne Nicholls

Constanza Pachner

Doreen Piehl

Brittany Pitruniak

Sony Raj

Peter Roccia

Kent Sangster

Leslie Vermeer

Annette Wierstra

Wayne Williams

Minutes: Christine Valentine

1. Approval of the agenda

MOTION to approve the January 29, 2015 Faculty Council agenda.

FFACFC-01-01-29-2015
Moved by Darci Mallon, seconded by Bill Richards.

MOTION CARRIED

2. Approval of November 26, 2014 Faculty Council minutes

MOTION to approve the November 26, 2014 Faculty Council minutes.

FFACFC-02-01-29-2015
Moved by Michael MacDonald, seconded by Jim Head.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Review of January 15, 2015 Executive Committee draft minutes

There was no discussion.

4. Chair’s update

There is no specific directive relative to Provincial budgets and grants at this time. Discussions are under way with those programs who are proposing Program of Study changes in an attempt to make these changes cost neutral. MacEwan is under a temporary hiring freeze until March. This will not affect the recruitment process of our four new
faculty hires in Arts and Cultural Management, Fine Art, Theatre Arts, and Theatre Production, but no offers can be made without further approval.

Construction of the new building is underway, and we are currently in the process of looking for ways to reduce costs. There will not likely be major impacts on programming, but we will know more as new information becomes available. The President will be visiting our campus in early February to provide an official update and to show us images of the building’s new exterior. The new collective agreement has been ratified by faculty.

Key changes
- Workload process – to be completed by January 31 (April 30 will be the interim deadline this year)
- Annual reports – deadline is September 15
- Performance review – process will be completed by February 1

An information session with HR and the Faculty Association to explain the agreement will be scheduled soon.

5. Program updates

Arts and Cultural Management
- Visiting Scholar Richard Evans will be joining us on February 3 and March 12
- Various upcoming alumni events and faculty workshops

Communication Studies
- Students Shelby MacLeod and Brittany Pitriniak were accepted to the CEO For A Day program
- New faculty member Sony Raj joined the department

Design Studies
- Hosted third Brown Bag lecture by pop-up book designer, Kevin Zak, returning March 18
- A student presented at a recent show at the Gray Gallery
- Progress on the degree proposal is underway
- Positive feedback received from focus group

Fine Art
- Two students presented as part of the research showcase
- Students will be going on a student-led initiative to New York
- Alumni and faculty are participating in the 2015 Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art
- Michelle Lavoie has a solo show at Modern Painters Gallery from February – March
- Joseph Doherty has his paintings on display at CAFÉ
- ASAC for hiring full-time faculty member underway
- Visiting artist Evan Lee will be joining us on March 12

Library
- Ron Rooth is a new librarian in Library Reference Services and will be located at CFAC
- Artist book collection on display January 30 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Music
- Jim Head's cd has been nominated for a Juno, as has the work of two other MacEwan graduates
- Tom Van Seters will be performing a faculty concert on February 8
- Celsius Quartet will be performing at the Yardbird Suite on March 7
- The Gateway Association awarded the Music department the Communitas Award for incorporating special needs students into our classrooms
- Allan Gilliland attended a double performance of his concerto in Russia
- Allan Gilliland is giving a presentation tomorrow for Student Research Week
- A Music student will be presenting at Research Week

Theatre Production
- Big Fish opens on February 4

6. AGC update

6.1 AGC report – Rose Ginther
AGC held two meetings, on November 28 and January 20, including a special session on December 11. Rose Ginther provided a brief report.

Key updates
- Recommended that Board of Governors submit the business case for MacEwan’s status in the Post-Secondary Learning Act to the Minister
- Adopted new policy document framework effective March 1, which will incorporate a number of different areas and will help to streamline processes
- Approved the termination of the PROW Diploma Program, Design Studies (Design and Exhibit Presentation; Design and Motion Image) Diploma Program, and the Design Foundations Certificate
- Approved the extension of the PROW diploma suspension

To read the full report, please visit the AGC website.

7. New business

7.1 Marketing and recruitment think tank

7.1.1 Session notes
There was no discussion.

7.1.2 Implementation team – vote on FFAC representation
An implementation team composed of John McGrath, Aimee Hill, Denise Roy, Dianne Westwood, one-two FFAC faculty members and potentially others, will be formed to take action on some of the ideas proposed by the think tank to improve student enrolment over the next two years.

Nominations have been received from Melisa Cuerrier and Rose Ginther. Carole Charette was nominated from the floor.

MOTION to close nominations and elect Melissa Cuerrier and Rose Ginther as FFAC representatives for the Implementation Team.
MOTION CARRIED

7.2 Departmentalization update –Leslie Sharpe

The five-department model was approved at APPC with a majority vote, two oppositions and one abstention. The major concern noted was with the small size of the departments, Arts and Cultural Management in particular. Denise will be presenting the new department model at the upcoming AGC meeting. Faculty are welcome to attend to speak in support of the new model on March 17.

7.3 Bachelor of Design Letter of Intent –Carole Charette

The Letter of Intent was the first to come forward and was the result of a collaborative effort. The report articulates the mission of the program and that the proposed degree responds to student demand. Denise has sent it to the Provost, who will send it forward to the Board for approval in principle.

7.4 Student participation working group –Chris Ryan

Chris Ryan reported that the most significant impediment to student participation is isolation on this campus. Two criteria noted in the report, which are most effective at improving student participation were faculty involvement and perceived value, but there were only a couple recommendations in the report that really addressed these criteria: recommendations 7, 10, 13, and 14.

Summary of key responses

- Revisit committee terms of reference and re-write compositions in a way that encourages student participation.
  - Committees that may benefit from student members include:
    - Curriculum Committee
    - Visiting Artist and Scholar Committee
    - Future department committees
- Committees that deal with performance evaluation and peer review would not be appropriate for the inclusion of student members
- Promote faculty mentorship of students
- Engage the student governance body to help us fill new positions to ensure initiative comes from students
- Re-write program outcomes to incorporate citizenship
- Concern was expressed about to what extent students, particularly those in FFAC programs, had been consulted in the development of this document. There is a need for a forum for students on our campus to discuss this document further.

Chris Ryan will work with Brittany Pitruniak and SAMU to arrange further consultations with FFAC students with a report due back on March 26.

MOTION to recommend further consultation with FFAC students on student participation with a report back at the March 26 Faculty Council meeting.

FFACFC-04-01-29-2015
Moved by Rey Rosales, seconded by Jim Head.
7.5 Admissions criteria process – Rey Rosales

This faculty does not currently have a formal requirement to review admission criteria before they go to the Admissions and Selections Committee. Our faculty should consider formalizing this process as part of an upcoming review of bylaws and committee terms of reference. In the interim, the criteria for Music, Theatre Arts, and Theatre Production are coming up for review, and the Executive recommended that the Curriculum Committee and Faculty Council be granted temporary authority to review admission criteria.

MOTION to give FFAC Curriculum Committee and Faculty Council temporary authority to review and make a recommendation to Admissions and Selections with regards to admissions criteria.

FFACFC-05-01-29-2015
Moved by Rey Rosales, seconded by Rose Ginther.

MOTION CARRIED

8. Committee reports

8.1 Curriculum Committee – Rey Rosales

The Committee approved programs of study changes that will come forward at the February 25 Faculty Council meeting.

8.1.1. Residency exemption – Lucille Mazo

Lucille Mazo presented a request from the BCS program, which proposed an exemption to the clause in the graduation policy that states students must take 50% of their credits at the MacEwan in order to be granted a MacEwan credential. Two students have come forward with block transfer agreements and additional elective course work from other institutions, and will not be eligible for graduation under the current policy. There is concern that the 50% rule is an artificial barrier that inhibits students from being able to receive a MacEwan credential and that this issue may be indicative of similar problems to come. The program requested that the 50% rule be changed to 35%. The exemption would be reviewed in two years’ time to ensure that it still works for the program to help them in the interim.

Summary of key responses

- Concern was expressed that 50% is a significant amount of the curriculum and reducing the residency requirement to 35% may compromise the value of the program
- The proposed changes would not impact the core courses a student would be required to take to earn a degree since 50% of the program’s architecture is built on electives
- Concern was expressed that the MacEwan brand may be compromised if the residency requirements are too open
- The required field placement and community work may make it challenging for students to provide 50% residency
- Dealing with these instances on a case-by-case basis presents obvious disadvantages if there are a significant number of them in the future
- There may be implications for other programs to re-assess their own residency requirements in the future
- If not approved, students may transfer to other
Communication programs where their previous course work is acknowledged

**MOTION** to recommend to APPC that the residency requirement for the BCS degree be lowered to 35% effective immediately, with a review within two years after implementation.

**FFACFC-06-01-29-2015**
Moved by Lucille Mazo, seconded by Darci Mallon.

**MOTION CARRIED**
5 opposed; 2 abstained

8.2 Faculty Development, Research, and Sabbatical Committee – Rey Rosales
The deadline for research fund is January 31.

8.3 Visiting Scholar and Artist Committee – Rey Rosales
The Committee has exhausted their annual budget. Richard Evans is visiting on February 3 and March 12 and Christine Jensen will be visiting from March 2 – 9.

9. Committee nomination process and presentations
There will be a call for elections in early March.

9.1 Curriculum Committee – Rose Ginther
The Curriculum Committee identifies and promotes opportunities for cross-curricular learning. The Committee reviews and recommends approval of new syllabi, block transfer agreements and significant curricular changes. The Committee meets for one, two-hour meeting every month.

9.2 Executive Committee – Michael MacDonald
The Executive Committee is responsible for setting the Faculty Council agenda. Commitment is approximately one, one-and-a-half hour meeting every month.

9.3 Faculty Development, Research, and Sabbatical Committee – Darci Mallon
The Faculty Development Committee makes recommendations to fund faculty development and meets four-five times per year.

9.4 Visiting Artist and Scholar Committee – Leslie Sharpe
The Visiting Artist and Scholar Committee sets the criteria for a call and allocates funding for interesting visitors who are going to engaged students and faculty. The Committee meets four times per year.

10. Open discussion and future agenda items
Mike Sekulic reported that there will be an opportunity to build a faculty page into the calendar. The total number of hours required for a course will now show a weekly total number of hours instead of the total number of hours required per term.

Denise thanked everyone who has come to support our meetings.

11. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.